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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY

USSR

DATE DISTR. 20 Dec 1952

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SUBJECT

Soviet Propaganda Vulnerabilities
and Security Forces

NO. OF PAGES 3

PLACE
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)DATE
ACQUIRED BY SOURCESUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

DATE OF INFORMATION

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1. Should an army of Ukrainian liberation be styled an Army of Free Russia, or an
Army of Free Ukraine?

It would receive more support in the Ukraine as an Army of Free Russia.

2. What themes should its propaganda employ in time of war?

The biggest theme is land reform. Although the collectives should be liquidated,
there should be cooperatives or artels for specialized purposes, including the
operation of machine-tractor stations. The people would not favor any return to
the prerevolutionary system of landlordism.

Workers should be given their factories, as well as peasants their land. The ex-
periences of the Soviets in German-occupied territory served to confirm Soviet
propaganda against capitalism. Soviet industrial installations were incorporated
into trusts like Krupp and Farben and the workers were driven as hard as before.
A mixed economy should be advocated, with small industry and trade in a private
sector, urban utilities under city management, and large industry state-owned.
Perhaps national trade unions could be permitted to own plants.

Propaganda should avoid abstractions; be practical. Output should be keyed to
personal freedom (svoboda). Communism cannot be supported, but its original aims
should be adopted and the liberation should be presented as a fresh effort to ob-
tain these aims, a Workers' and Peasants' Government.

Chronologically, the first thing to do would be to inform the population and Armed
Forces of the existence of an Army of Free Russia. Then would follow publicity
for its missions or goals. Politically, the objective would be a Russian Federat-
ion, with minority nationalities accorded a wide measure of autonomy.

Propaganda should be aggressive. It should strike at the falsehood of Soviet pre-
tensions, such as happiness on the collective farm. It should unmask every Soviet
propaganda trick as it appears.

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The people should be told how to meet arriving liberation forces, and what they can expect from them. 25X1

By hand. Individuals should be infiltrated into the country. Then leaflets could be sent into them at agreed drop points. Some live without passports in the villages now. In the chaos of wartime, it would be easy. A stranger would be well received, if he came with friendly intentions. It is important that such propaganda emissaries be supplied with pieces of paper. The simple Russian or Ukrainian places credence in what he sees in print, rather than in what he hears. Further, it will be well for the propagandist to obtain signatures from supporters and send them out of the country. This will go far to ensure loyalty. Other media should not be neglected. 25X1

They are most vulnerable through the home front. While there is no leave, replacements come in all the time, and men accompany supplies reaching the front. Tactical propaganda would be useful if the Soviet forces were being beaten. In addition to delivering leaflets by artillery and mortar fire, it may be desirable to withdraw slightly over ground well strewn with propaganda. 25X1 25X1

Rumor goes very fast. News of Soviet rev 25X1

In general, it takes about two hours for a first-class rumor to go from one end to the other of a village five kilometers long. 25X1 25X1

Great. In spreading propaganda to the armed forces, nurses could play an important part. They enjoy high prestige and wide freedom, but the use of camp followers would be bad for the influence of the movement.

Women at home could reach troops at the front through "gifts to the Front" packages, collected by the local Voenkomats. These were not censored in World War II, for fear of theft by the censors, and could contain leaflets.

The position of women in Soviet society is not such as to preclude their having political influence. Any normal man is influenced by some woman. 25X1

That it can take almost any country in Europe in a matter of hours. This makes the Soviet Army very happy. The effect of a "crack-down" on the Party in any European country would be far-reaching in the USSR. 25X1

Absolutely not. Army pride would rebel at police duties, and it would not be safe to trust soldiers in case of popular revolt. 25X1

For a city of 20,000 there might be 50 MVD for police duty. Kirovograd, with 100,000, had 400, plus some reserves in civilian jobs. In addition, Communist Party members are authorized to carry arms, and do so. The MVD has been reduced to the level of ordinary police, and large units, with military organization and heavy arms, are now MGB. These units run up to a regiment in size. This is the strength of the MGB at Kiev, a city of over 500,000. The headquarters of this regiment is at No 8, Kirov Street. MGB Convoy Units and prison guards add to this total. There are usually 40 guards on a prison train. In an oblast there might be a reserve of security forces of 500-600 men, organized as a battalion and normally stationed in or near the oblast center.

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[REDACTED] I should guess that one division of MGB troops would be stationed in the Komi ASSR, for example. The regiments, battalions and companies of this division would be scattered around to guard separate points. I do not think that there would be a central reserve of any considerable size; the Government would not keep many troops idle. I have read a recent Army manual on guard duty, and it specifies that a guard regiment may be in several places. Companies will be responsible for the guard of certain points for 24 hours. Each man stands guard eight hours in 24, in shifts of two hours on and two hours off. Following a 24-hour period of guard duty, a company has 24 hours of rest. The third day of the cycle is devoted to training. There are four companies in an MGB battalion. The fourth battalion is often incomplete and serves as a training battalion.

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